593 Another argument on the same subject a few days later ended with Lim
548 Li-kui threatening her daughter with a cleaver. Lim A-sui simply
578 stood her ground and encouraged her mother, "Kill me! I don't care!
Kill me!"

593 In most cases in which a daughter dares to quarrel openly with one
548 of her parents, public opinion will be quick to condemn her, but if the
208 girl is a prostitute the tendency is to side with the daughter against
her parents. Most village gossips discussing current quarrels between prostitutes and their parents label the parents "selfish" and deserving of whatever ill fortune their fate might bring them. The attitude of the villagers seems to be that while a parent has the right to command a daughter to work as a prostitute they cannot expect the daughter to pay them the respect ordinarily due a parent. It is as though the debt a child owes to her parents is entirely repaid when she submits to such a demand.

593 Prostitution is one way in which a family can use their daughters
562 to obtain heirs and support for their old age, and it is the only way
548 in which a woman who does not marry can provide for herself and her future. Prostitution might therefore be characterized as an alternative to marriage, but it is always an undesirable alternative. For
[558] the prostitute it means anything but a normal life, and for her family there is always some loss of face. Worse yet, for the parents there is always the danger that they are sacrificing as much as they are gaining. In sending a daughter to work they may be able to manage without a marriage in the next generation, but this is accomplished only